

BENJAMIN -- 10/627,922
Client/Matter: 070386-0303769

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 13, delete paragraph [00430 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

[0043] The pneumatic cylinder 40 in FIG. 3 may be a linear pneumatic cylinder having a five inch diameter and a sixty inch stroke. A magnet 90 may be mounted within the piston 92 98 and magnetic reed switches 94, 96 may be mounted on the cylinder 98 92 of the pneumatic cylinder 40. The reed switches 94, 96 generate feedback signals that are communicated to control device 66. The control device 66 may be programmed to use these feedback signals to control positioning (extension and retraction) of the probe 10. Several reed switches may be disposed along the length of the pneumatic cylinder 40 to enable the control device 66 to stop the temperature probe 10 in one of a wide range of extended positions to accommodate a range of container sizes having different container heights.

Page 14, delete paragraph [00430 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

[0047] A temperature control assembly 106 is recommended to heat or cool the heat conducting structure 62 prior to insertion of the probe 10 into the mass 12 of tobacco product. Temperature measurements are generally more rapid, more accurate and more consistent if the effects of thermal invasion and the accumulative frictional heating of the probe tip during penetration are minimized. Minimizing thermal invasion is particularly important when the temperature probe 10 is used to measure the temperature of tobacco because of the extremely low thermal conductivity characteristic of packed tobacco. Temperature measurements are also improved if the effects of ambient or environmental temperature are also minimized.